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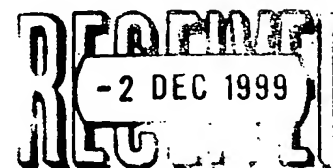
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Your Reference: 18/SJ/P32346GB
Application No: GB 9920394.5

30 November 1999



Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and two copies of the citations

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AUG 06 2003

Publication

GROUP 3600

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **20 February 2001**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT"**.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Parker
Examiner

ACCOUNTS GT2

YES NO

†Use of E-mail: Please note that under patent law e-mail may be used to file correspondence only.



Application No: GB 9920394.5
Claims searched: 1-15

Examiner: Matthew Parker
Date of search: 29 November 1999

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.Q): EIJ: JGN

Int Cl (Ed.6): B60J 10/02, 10/04, 10/06

Other: Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A	GB 2311799 A DRAFTEX INDUSTRIES LTD	
A	GB 2259730 A TOYOTA GOSPEL CO. LTD	
A	JP 11129836 A KINUGAWA RUBBER INC	
A	JP 8127249 A KINUGAWA RUBBER INC	

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.